

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The first inlet (F1) and the second inlet (F2) are located just below ~~S1~~S3 and just above ~~S3~~S1, respectively. Samples are taken from the reboiler at sampling ~~point~~point.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 10, line 19, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The chlorine fraction in the gas directly relates to the chlorine conversion in the column, i.e. a decrease of one percent in the gas equals two percent chlorine conversion. The bottom product analysis (P1) gives indirect information about the MCA formation rate, since the product is initially diluted with acetic acid present in the reactive distillation column. In Table 1 the measured chlorine content in the off gas (P2) and measured MCA, DCA and HAc amount in the bottom product stream (~~P2~~P1) are tabulated.